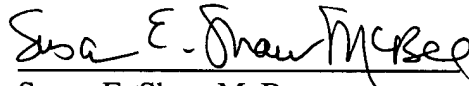


**REMARKS**

The instant amendments are being made to effect changes made to the instant §371 application during the international stage and to delete multiple dependencies of the claims and "preferably" clauses. Claim 1-20 are pending.

An early action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,



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May 19, 2000

Date

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